Sector Oil Marketing Companies. Measures to check adulteration are kept under continuous review of the Government.

(vii) Institutional arrangements for replacing AAC are under review in the Ministry.

Availability of natural gas in Tripura

760. SHRI SHANKAR ROY CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any plans for extraction and utilization of reserves of natural gas in Tripura;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) The gas reserves of Tripura are utilized by way of gas sales to consumers like the North East Electric Power Company (NEEPCO) and Department of Power, Government of Tripura for generating power for domestic and industrial consumer through GAIL. At present, about 1.47 Million Standard Cubic Meters Per Day (MMSCMD) of gas has been contracted for by different consumers through GAIL. A further 2 MMSCMD of gas has been allocated to NEEPCO for power generation.

At present, the Tripura Asset of ONGC is at the exploration stage. As and when consumers enter into contracts, the fields will be developed further.

Strike by workers of petroleum companies

761. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employees of the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation, Indian Oil Corporation, Bharat Petroleum Corporation and All India Petroleum Workers Federation had gone on strike on the 1st July, 2004 against the decision of Government for privatization of Amguri Oil Field in Assam;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) the loss suffered by Government due to this strike; and